

Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Date: August 30, 2006

Inspector: Lee Curtis

Location: Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane,
345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill, and Norwalk Section)

Storm/

Rain Event: Highly variable amounts of rain were recorded over 8/25- 8/29 with 1.29" in Danbury and up to 8.05" in Bridgeport as reported by NOAA. Local totals may vary.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd by an existing trail path with a swing gate, and an access road passing through the Archers Lane station. 8/30/06. -Most steep slopes have erosion in the stone dust.	- If necessary, additional measures for stability should be considered for access needs. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, they will need to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8/05-8/30/06.	-Not Applicable (N/A) until evaluation at the end of work.
Composite	- Active clearing was not noted past Archers Lane. Wood chips have been blown off the cleared ROW in some areas. See the vegetative clearing section for more details. 3/2-8/30/06.	-See vegetative clearing section for details and recommendations. 8/30/06.	- Still needs attention.
	- Even with the recent repairs, erosion on the access road has caused stone to spill over the silt fence further down-gradient. 8/17-8/30/06.	-This is adjacent to the 2 nd wetland crossing and will have to be pulled back and repaired again. 8/17-8/30/06.	- Needs attention (even following recent repairs).
345kV H-Frame	- Work areas are accessed from Hoyts Hill, Chestnut Ridge Rd, Webb Rd, Lime Kiln Rd,	-Continue to monitor the conditions of all access roads. If muddy conditions re-occur, place	- N/A at this time

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Norwalk Section	Whortleberry Rd, John Todd Way and Costa Lane. 3/29-8/30/06.	more wood chips or consider installing silt fence as needed. 8/30/06.	
	- Erosion continues along the access road near structure #31 but haybales seem to be containing sediment. 7/19-8/30/06. Reese is storing equipment between structure #30 and #31. 8/30/06.	-Continue to monitor and keep stone out of any resource areas. Haybales currently contain the sediment. 7/26-8/30/06.	-Look into more permanent solutions.
	- Controls at Bethel water building were in good shape. However, Webb Rd has received significant storm run-off from Nashville Rd ext. 7/12-8/30/06.	- Flow from Webb Rd during rain events is not project related but it is washing out the road with each storm 7/5-8/30/06.	- Evaluate road condition
	- Minor sediment tracking was noted in Kent Road from the ROW access to the north. 7/19-8/30/06.	- Continue to maintain this entrance and sweep street when necessary. Add more clean stone if needed 7/19-8/30/06.	-N/A at this time
	-Mats remain in good condition over the wetlands in this section. 8/30/06.	- None at this time. 8/30/06.	-N/A
	-Several wetlands are matted to the south of Kent Rd. Haybales are still in place at the wash out areas along the access road. 8/30/06.	- Continue to maintain erosion controls at the areas that continuously wash out. 7/12-8/30/06	- Hay bales were placed at the wash out areas. The remaining silt fence is in good condition.
Line Construction Composite	- No active work was noted in the Archers Lane ROW section this week. 8/30/06.	- None at this time. 8/30/06.	-N/A
345kV H-Frame	- No active work was noted in the Bethel Reservoir, Chestnut Ridge, John Todd Way, or Costa Lane ROW sections this week.	- None at this time 8/30/06.	- N/A

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<p>Norwalk Section</p> <p>Line Construction continued</p>	<p>Danger tree removal appears to be complete in these areas. 8/30/06.</p>		
	<p>-With the exception of the structure #11048 to Norwalk Junction, all wire pulling is complete in this section. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p>
	<p>-Old tower foundations have been removed from the ROW at Broad Street and Kent Road south. The concrete filled dumpsters have been removed from site. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
	<p>-Foundation removal continues along a portion of the ROW near Perry Ave. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> <p>Composite</p>	<p>- Crews were dead-ending wire from structure #11081 to the Norwalk substation, and within the ROW near North Seir Hill Road. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/30/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p>
	<p>- Although controls upgradient of the 2nd wetland crossing along the Archers Lane access road were repaired, additional run-off caused stone to pile over the fence again. 8/17-8/30/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-8/30/06. Another area with deep wood chips off</p>	<p>- Controls should be maintained as necessary and the stone has to be pulled back from the wetland. More permanent measures will be needed. 8/17-8/30/06.</p> <p>-Make sure chips stay on the ROW. Contractors should remove the off ROW chips since this is not allowed in the D&M plan. 2/22-8/30/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>-Still needs attention (CL&P is looking into a solution here)</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
345kV H-Frame Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd. Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way	the cleared ROW remains past Archers Lane. 3/15-8/30/06.	depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out. 4/6-8/30/06.	
	- An old stockpile was noted at a structure before Rt 53 off Gallows Hill. 5/17-8/30/06	-Make sure that restoration occurs in previously disturbed areas and that materials are removed and not forgotten in place. 5/17-8/30/06	- Needs attention when feasible
	- The controls at structure #34 off Gallows Hill remain in good shape but the surrounding area is bare of vegetation 8/30/06.	- The area should be restored and vegetated-even if it is temporarily. 6/14-8/30/06.	- Needs attention when feasible.
	-The majority of the pile at structure#6 has been removed but soil remains encroaching on wetlands 4/12-8/30/06.	- Remove the remaining soil in this area. 2/22-8/30/06.	- Needs attention when feasible
	-The area around structure #9 had re-vegetated and adjacent silt fence could be removed. However, a small area upgradient of the pole has been recently disturbed. 8/30/06.	-The exposed soil should be restored and vegetated. Although it does not appear that sediment is running-off into the road from this area, silt fence may be necessary here. 8/30/06.	-Needs attention when feasible.
	- Ruts and disturbance remain in the wetland between poles #10-11. although vegetation is increasing. 8/30/06.	- Haybales should be placed across the ROW to prevent sedimentation and help discourage access. 5/17-8/30/06	- Needs attention (even though the majority of the damage is not project related.)
	- The majority of the area near structures #24-25 remain bare of vegetation. A portion of the disturbed area at #24, closest to the silt fence, has revegetated. 8/30/06.	- Revegetate these areas ASAP to reduce run-off. 8/9-8/30/06.	-Silt fence was repaired.
	- The access road erosion	- Keep all stone/sediment	

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<p>Norwalk Section</p> <p>Broad Street, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road.</p> <p>Kent Rd. (North – new ROW section)</p> <p>Kent Rd. (South)</p>	<p>near structure #31 was regraded but erosion has returned, despite the haybales. 7/19-8/30/06</p> <p>- The area near pole #11078 has been re-graded but has not been seeded and mulched. 8/30/06.</p> <p>- The area near pole #11080 at the substation remains fairly bare of vegetation 8/17-8/30/06. Portions of the silt fence needed to be reinforced. 8/30/06.</p> <p>- The stone access pad north of Kent Rd may still need some cleanup; there was minor sediment tracking in the road. 8/17-8/30/06.</p> <p>- Silt fence remains along both banks of the stream and near the foundation at the pond in the Kent Rd north section. 7/19-8/30/06.</p> <p>-Silt fence was down at pole #11051 at the time of inspection. 8/3-8/30/06.</p> <p>- Silt fence was in good condition along the Kent Rd south ROW. Hay bales remain in place at wash out areas along the access road. 8/30/06. Some stone remains beyond the erosion controls. 8/17-8/30/06.</p>	<p>from entering resource areas and investigate alternative stabilization measures. 7/19-8/30/06</p> <p>-This area should be restored/seeded as soon as possible since it washes out regularly. 7/19-8/30/06.</p> <p>- Restore the adjacent area with vegetation to reduce potential run-off, even if it is temporarily. Silt fence was repaired during the inspection. 6/7-8/30/06.</p> <p>- Continue to maintain and sweep the street when necessary. Improve pad if needed. 7/19-8/30/06.</p> <p>-Continue to monitor and maintain as needed. 8/30/06.</p> <p>- Silt fence was repaired during the inspection. 8/30/06.</p> <p>-Continue to repair and reinforce controls. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-8/30/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to evaluate.</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>-Silt fence was repaired, but this area still needs to be restored with vegetation when feasible.</p> <p>- N/A at this time</p> <p>- N/A at this time</p> <p>- Fence was repaired.</p> <p>-Haybales were placed at wash out areas. - Remove stone when feasible.</p>
Inland Wetland and	-The D&M plan approved stone on	- As the access is considered temporary, the	-N/A until the end of work.

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Watercourse encroachment and mitigation Composite	geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings have worked fairly well. 4/6-8/30/06.	stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 1/26-8/30/06. This will be occurring in the near future. 8/30/06	
345kV H-Frame	- At structure #6, most of the mud was removed from the wetland and they will continue to do so. 4/6-8/30/06.	- Continue to remove entire pile. 2/16-8/30/06.	- N/A
	- Non-project related vehicles had not returned to the wetland between #10-11 but damage remains. Vegetative growth has increased 8/17-8/30/06.	- Haybales should be added across the access road on both side of the wetland to reduce sedimentation. 5/25-8/30/06.	-Needs attention (the majority of disturbance is from non project related vehicles)
Norwalk Section	-Controls needed repair at #11051 adjacent to the wetland near the pond at Kent Rd 8/30/06.	-Silt fence was repaired during the inspection. Adjacent wetlands were not impacted. 8/30/06.	- Silt fence was repaired.
All Sections	- Use caution in removing trees from wetland areas. Avoid creating ruts when skidding them out. 3/29-8/30/06.	- Retain shrubs and low growth as much as possible, especially at stream buffers. 3/2-8/30/06.	- N/A
	-If a wetland is being used as amphibian breeding habitat, retaining some wood debris at its boundaries may be beneficial. 3/2-8/30/06.	-Carefully remove brush piles and trees from near wetland areas. 3/2-8/30/06. - Watch this near the pooled area on the new ROW section	-N/A
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-8/30/06.	- Now that weather is warmer, daily walkthroughs should be occurring prior to any work in the area. 4/6-8/30/06.	-N/A at this time
	-An Eastern box turtle was noted crossing the access road near structure	- Perform walkthroughs in this new section as well. 6/14-8/30/06.	-N/A

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	#7 in the Chestnut Ridge Rd section on 6/14/06.		
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	- Adjacent homeowners near Gallows Hill mentioned damage to mountain laurel and other shrubs. 3/2-8/30/06.	-In general, take care in retaining shrubs and use mats to access or skid out trees from wetlands. 2/22-8/30/06. -Replace shrubs where necessary. 8/30/06.	-Needs attention when feasible
Composite	- A significant amount of chips were blown off the ROW into the upland and also along the wetland edge at the 3 rd structure off Gallows Hill. These areas are off property. 2/22-8/30/06. -This was also noted several structures past Archers Lane. 3/15-8/30/06.	- Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&M plan. 2/22-8/30/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-8/30/06.	- Still needs attention CL&P is looking into this.
345kV H-Frame	-It does not appear that any clearing is necessary past Archers Lane 8/30/06.	- None at this time. 8/30/06	- N/A
	- Clearing of danger trees appears to be complete in this section. Reese is still storing equipment at structure #11031 off Costa Lane. 8/30/06.	-None at this time. 8/30/06.	-N/A at this time
Norwalk Section	-The majority of additional the danger tree clearing/ log removal appears to be complete, but additional efforts may be needed. 8/30/06.	- Be extremely careful to retain shrubs and vegetation where feasible. 5/25-8/30/06.	-N/A
Dewatering	- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection. 8/30/06.	- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. (Make sure to check downgradient for these areas) Otherwise use a filter bag or adequate containment. 3/9-8/30/06.	-N/A at this time

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 8/30/06.	-None at this time. 8/30/06.	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	-No spills or drips were noted along the route this week. 8/30/06. - In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource areas or as far as feasible. 8/30/06	- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site - Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst-case scenarios. - Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.	-NA
Additional Observations			

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday September 7, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Inspector's Signature: Diana Walden for Lee Curtis



(Composite Section): Both photos show the piles of wood chips that were blown into the upland areas beyond the ROW past Archers Lane. 8/30/06



Photo on the left shows the first access road crossing at Archers Lane along the ROW. Sediment has accumulated here in the wetland and needs to be removed. Photo on the right shows a view of the second wetland crossing which will also be restored in the near future. 8/30/06.



(345kV H-Frame): Photo on the left shows a view of the silt fence at the farm/field area near structure #7 along the Chestnut Ridge Road section of ROW. The area has re-vegetated, but silt fence will remain here until the road within the ROW is restored. Photo on the right shows the wetland crossing near structure #6. 8/30/06.



Photo on the left shows the area at structure #9 where the ground is stabilized with vegetation. Silt fence here could be removed. Photo on the right shows a new area of disturbance upgradient of this structure, which should be seeded. 8/30/06.



The photo on the left shows erosion continuing at structure #31 in the ROW near Costa Lane. (Norwalk Section): Photo on the right shows repairs were made to the silt fence at structure #11051. 8/30/06.



Photo on the left shows minor sediment tracking in Kent Road from the ROW access to the north. Photo on the right shows a view of structure #11048 near Norwalk Junction. 8/30/06.



Photo on the left shows a crew dead-ending wire at Norwalk Substation. Photo on the right shows the area at structure #11076 near Perry Ave. This area was re-graded after old towers and foundations were removed, but still needs to be seeded and mulched. 8/30/06.



Photo on the left shows a crew removing old foundations in the ROW off Perry Ave. Photo on the right shows crews dead-ending wire in the ROW off North Seir Hill Road. 8/30/06.